



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/879,966 Confirmation No. 4190
Applicant : Yoshihiko SANO et al.
Filed : June 14, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1723
Examiner : Unknown
Dkt. No. : NPR-074
Cust. No. : 20374

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 29, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These documents have been cited in a search report in a corresponding European application. One copy of each of the listed documents and a copy of the search report is attached.

No fee or statement is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following

filing of the above-captioned application.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Document UA is in the English language. Therefore, no concise explanation of the relevance of the document is believed to be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Documents FA and FB are not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of English language abstracts thereof.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 111833 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK



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U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 09/879,966
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

PATENT

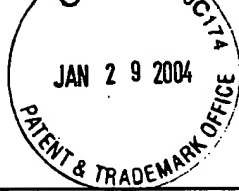
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Attachments: PTO-1449
Three Documents
European Search Report



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. NPR-074	Serial No. 09/879,966
	Applicant: Yoshihiko SANO	
	Filing Date: June 14, 2001	Group: 1723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initial		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If appropriate
	UA	4,096,059	06/20/78	Pinkerton	210	22 A	
	UB						
	UC						
	UD						
	UE						
	UF						
	UG						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initial		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation Yes/No/Partial
	FA	32 34 119 C1	11/17/83	DE	Abstract
	FB	7-303694 A	11/21/95	JP	Abstract
	FC				
	FD				
	FE				
	FF				
	FG				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initial		
	DA	
	DB	
	DC	

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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